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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,602	09/15/2003	Sung Uk Moon	242752US90	8504
22850	7590	08/07/2008	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				PANWALKAR, VINEETA S
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2611				
NOTIFICATION DATE			DELIVERY MODE	
08/07/2008			ELECTRONIC	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/661,602	MOON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	VINEETA S. PANWALKAR	2611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 April 2008.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-4 and 11-14 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4 and 11-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 19 July 2007 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 and 11-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Zhu et al. (US 7043210 B2), hereinafter, Zhu.
- 2a. Regarding claims 1 and 11, Zhu discloses a modulation device (and corresponding method as per claim 11), comprising:
 - a modulation unit (Fig. 2, processor 22 encodes data to be transmitted and is interpreted as claimed modulation unit, see column 4, lines 8-17) configured to modulate data in a hierarchical manner (Column 5, lines 1-21) using multiple types of modulation techniques (Column 5, lines 1-21, wherein QPSK and 16QAM are interpreted as claimed multiple types of modulation

techniques) and to produce hierarchically modulated data that includes signal states for the multiple types of modulation techniques (Column 5, lines 1-21);

- a transmission unit (Fig. 2, unit 24) configured to transmit the hierarchically modulated data (Column 4, lines 17-25).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 2-4 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhu in view of Golitschek et al. (WO 02/067491 A1), hereinafter, Golitschek.

3a. Regarding claims 2 and 12, Zhu discloses all the limitations claimed, but fails to explicitly disclose claimed sampling pattern generating unit.

In the same field of endeavor, however, Golitschek discloses:

- a sampling pattern generating unit (Fig. 5, unit 15) configured to generate a sampling pattern which is a constellation pattern in a phase defining sampling space for quantizing data in accordance with a modulation technique, wherein the modulation unit (Fig. 5, unit 13) modulates data based on the sampling pattern (Page 16, last paragraph).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a sampling pattern generation unit disclosed by Golitschek to generate the sampling patterns for each the modulation techniques used by Zhu because Golitschek's technique provides flexibility by allowing rearrangement of signal constellations that result in increased performance at the decoder (Page 4, last two paragraphs).

3b. Regarding claims 3 and 13, Zhu and Golitschek disclose all the limitations claimed.

Zhu further discloses the claimed multiple types of modulation techniques to be QPSK (claimed multi-phase phase shift keying) and 16-QAM (claimed multi-value quadrature amplitude modulation) (Column 5, lines 1-21).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art that Golitschek's sampling unit would be used by Zhu to generate sampling patterns defining space in one of claimed multi-phase phase shift keying and multi-value quadrature amplitude modulations so as to achieve Zhu's hierarchical modulation.

- 3c. Regarding claims 4 and 14, Zhu and Golitschek disclose all the limitations claimed.

Golitschek further shows transmitter signaling the sequence of constellation patterns used to the receiver (Page 17, second paragraph).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Golitschek's technique and to transmit the constellation pattern itself (claimed sampling pattern) along with the modulated data as claimed, because this will allow save storage space at the receiver and allow for flexibility in using any constellation pattern desired by the transmitter without having to make corresponding change in the receiver.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:
 - Nagaoka et al. (US 2001/0012322 A1) disclose a layered modulation scheme.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VINEETA S. PANWALKAR whose telephone number is (571)272-8561. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mohammad Ghayour can be reached on 571-272-3021. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/V. S. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2611

/Mohammad H Ghayour/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2611